The Lemon Grove REVIEW

SPORTS WEEKLY EAST COUNTY

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Former El Cap softball star returns to coach her alma mater

by Greg Eichelberger

Stories of students who return several years later to teach at the school they graduated from are generally left to soapy movies or situation comedies, like "Welcome Back, Kotter."

There are, however, some who do, and one of those is Melissa Hadfield, an El Capitan High grad from 1990, who, on a softball scholarship, attended Cal-State Fullerton (well known as a college baseball powerhouse), and is now back at her alma mater, coaching,softball.

"I was the most surprised person in the world when I received that four-year scholarship," said Hadfield, who came away from CSF with a B.A. in science and kinesiology (the study of how muscles work). "Such honors for softball were very rare in those days, and I was shocked to be one of those who was chosen."

A Lakeside resident since the age of 14, she was an standout in left field at El Cap, and continued the sterling play in Fullerton. She earned All Big West in her senior year, although she freely admits that the difference between high school and college was like night and day.

With the spotlight of public scrutiny on white hot, she played against some of the best of the best in woman's collegiate softball, UCLA, USC and the University of Arizona.

Toiling under coaches Judy Garman and Kathy van Wyk (now at SDSU), Hadfield honed her skills to a razor-sharp edge, and more than once saved the day for her mates.

One memorable game even had her belting a grand slam against the Wildcats to propel her squad to victory, all of this while recovering from shoulder surgery and back problems from the year before.

As the accolades kept coming, it seemed like nothing could prevent her from going anywhere she wanted. There was the possibility of playing for the national or Olympic team, and offers were coming in from Germany and other European countries, where the sport was catching fire amongst the partisans.

Then, while at a tournament in Hawaii, her sore back forced her to slide head first, and, in the most graphic of sports terms, she "blew out her knee," and that was it. Her playing days were over.

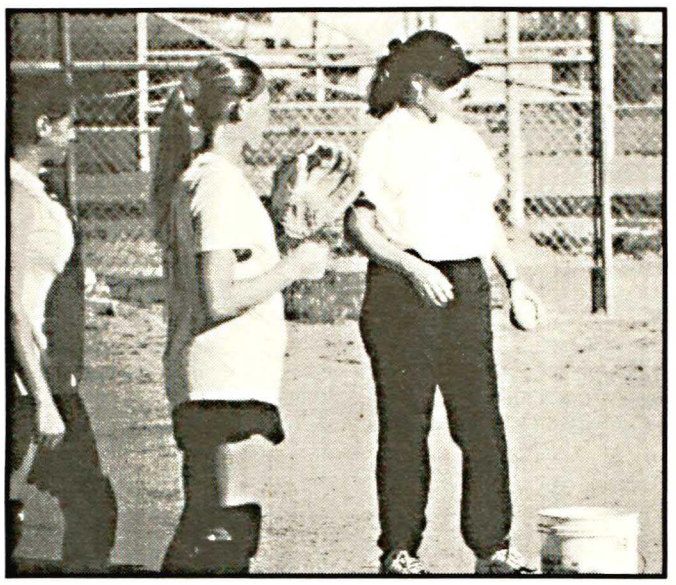
She said she was devastated at first, but made up her mind that she wasn't going to let all her accumulated skill and knowledge go to waste. If she couldn't use it herself, she'd pass it along to others.

In her second year of teaching (she student-taught in 1995-96) physical education and Career Family Studies, as well as coaching the varsity Vaqueros, Hadfield has turned all of her energies into inspiring her 15 charges (seven seniors, one junior, six sophomores and one freshman) into becoming the best they can be, both on and off the field.

She looks forward to competing in the Grossmont League and feels her team has the right stuff to be competitive,

"My goal is not only to teach them the fundamentals of the game," she said, "but to show them how they can be better citizens." She said that she believes that it is just as important to instruct life management skills as it is to show them how to execute a certain play. She also feels that if the student has the heart to do something, nothing will stop her.

"We put our hands on our hearts to show each other that that is where everything comes from," she said,



El Cap girls varsity softball coach Melissa Hadfield (right) looks for the positive in life. *Photo by Greg Eichelberger*

It makes her realize that amidst all of their teenage faults and silliness, they understand what we're trying to tell them.

Raised by a single mother, Bonnie, with little or no support, Hadfield, and her younger sister Cassandra were taught by example on how to overcome obstacles, conquer adversity and look for the positive side of things.

This upbringing has allowed her to view her players and pupils in a different, less harsh, light. "I try not to lecture the kids," she said. "They wouldn't respect me if I did."

Another opportunity to rise above the curve balls that life throws occurred just two weeks ago when her junior high coach, teacher and mentor at Tierra del Sol, Ed Curtis, suddenly collapsed while conducting his daily P.E. class. Placed on life support, he died the next day, leaving a stunned academic populace in his wake.

"I had a real tough time dealing with that," she admitted. "He was not only my basketball coach, but a friend. He pushed me to go the extra mile, the extra step that I would need to succeed. She said that he was always there for me, and was a wonderful, wonderful man.

Hadfield realizes that Curtis' sudden demise brought home even more sharply how precious and unpredictable life is, It provided yet another teaching opportunity.

"Knowing that any of us could leave at any moment, makes me want to do everything I can for my students," she said. "And if they remember me for anything, I'd like it to be that I showed them the proper choices to make in and to never, never give up

LaChappa Field dedication emphasizes community ties

by Joe Naiman

Sometimes the significance of an event is determined by who is in attendance.

In the case of the dedication of Matt LaChappa Field March 14, the presence of personnel from the San Diego Padres, the Barona Tribal Council and Barona Casino and various figures in the Lakeside community, as well as by the Lakeside American Little League which received the upgraded park, showed its importance to the community.

The Padres held a dedication that afternoon, sending President Larry Lucchino, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Charles Steinberg, Director of Minor League Operations Priscilla Oppenheimer, former Cy Young Award winner Randy Jones and the owner's wife, Becky Moores.

The Padres also spared Hal Garrett, Matt LaChappa's roommate and best friend, from spring training duties in Peoria, Ariz.

"We wanted to make it a ballpark the Lakeside Little Leaguers would be proud to play on and the Lakeside community would be proud to maintain," said Lucchino. "There is a special connection between the Padres and Matt LaChappa."

LaChappa, the son of Barona Tribal Council chairman Clifford LaChappa, began his organized baseball career with Lakeside American Little League. After a stellar pitching career at El Capitan High School, LaChappa was drafted by the Padres in the second round of the 1993 amateur draft.

On April 6, 1996, LaChappa was warming up in the bullpen for Rancho Cucamonga, the Padres' Class A affiliate in the California League.

LaChappa suffered a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. He spent several months in a coma and is still undergoing rehabilitation.

Oppenheimer noted that when Matt signed his first contract in 1993 he was accompanied by many members of his family.

"We really appreciate everything the Padres have done and I'm really proud of them for jumping into the community," said Clifford LaChappa.

Although Matt LaChappa was in a wheelchair and spoke with great difficulty, his father, who noted the progress that has been made, said, "I love you all because you all prayed for him."

Following the unveiling of the Matt LaChappa Field sign provided by the Padres, Matt LaChappa was able to say, "Thank you. I love you."

"Matt's really an inspiration to us," said Steinberg, who emceed the dedication. "To see in a year's time for him to have recovered so much is very inspiring."

Padres' President Larry Lucchino and Becky Moores, wife of Padres owner John Moores, unveil the new sign for the renovated baseball field in Lakeside. Several hundred well-wishers from the Barona Indian tribe and the Lakeside Little League attended the emotional dedication. *Photo by Joe Naiman*

"It's a perfect spot for a Little Padres Park and a perfect person to honor. The program was designed for good moments. This is a wond moment," said Lucchino.

Later that evening, e Lakeside American Little League held another dedication ceremony featuring Barona tribal members, LaChappa's pastor and El Capitan baseball coach Steve Vickery as well as Lakeside American Little League officials.

Spring Valley Lions slate annual golf tournament

The Spring Valley Lions Club will hold its annual golf tournament fundraiser on April 25 on the Rancho San Diego Golf Course, 3121 Willow Glen Road, El Cajon.

Profits from the tournament will be used in sight conservation, youth eyeglass program, youth activities and general aid for the needy in the community.

Check-in starts at 11 a.m. A putting contest begins at 11:15 a.m. Tee time is at noon. The general public is welcome.

The four-person scramble will cost $75 per player and includes golf cart and dinner. Dinner only for guests will be $15.

Lions Chairman John Baker said that major prizes include a round of golf for four with cart at Rancho San Diego, two days of golf and one night of lodging at Singing Hills, a $100 gift certificate for Viejas Casino, golf clubs and golf balls. Special prizes will be awarded for the longest drive and closest to th pin.

To enter, send check payable to the Spring Valley Lions Club to Dick Lyons, 10839 Buggywhip Drive, Spring Valley CA 91978, phone 660-0256

Lemon Grove Fire Log

Feb. 28 - March 6, 1997

Hwy 94 WE/Lemon Grove Ave. Vehicle accident freeway.
Central Ave./Olive St. Traffic accident.
3200 blk. Acacia St. Unknown medical.
1900 blk. Ensenada St. Traffic accident.
6700 blk. San Miguel Ave. Unresponsive.
7900 blk. Mt. Vernon St. Difficulty breathing.
8400 blk. Broadway. Reaction to medication.
2300 blk. Massachusetts Ave. Overdose.
8000 blk. Broadway. Slumped over the wheel.
2100 blk. Rebecca Way. Flooding.
2300 blk. Berry St. Rubbish fire.
2400 blk. New Jersey Ave. Diabetic problem.
7900 blk. Mt. Vernon St. Possible coroner case.
7400 blk. Broadway. Assault victim.
3100 blk. Florine Dr. Assault victim.
8300 blk. Palm St. Possible stroke.
Grove St./Hwy 94 EB. Freeway accident.
7600 blk. Broadway. Medical aid.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Loan: 6861173 Other: 00615233 File: M11036 A.P. Number 576-451-06-00 Notice Of Trustee's Sale under Deed Of Trust you are in default under a Deed Of Trust, dated April 16, 1990, unless you take action to protect your property, it may be sold at a public sale. If you need an explanation of the nature of the proceeding against you, you should contact a lawyer. Notice is hereby given that Lender Service Bureau, A California corporation, as Trustee, or successor trustee, or substituted trustee pursuant to the Deed Of Trust executed by MARK W. STICKMAN AND ELVA N. STICKMAN, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS recorded on 04/24/1990 as Instrument No. 90-219590 in book page of official records in the office of the County Recorder of SAN DIEGO County, California, and pursuant to the Notice Of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded 06/23/1995 in book , page , as Instrument No. 95-0263411 of said official records, will sell on 04/08/1997 AT THE FRONT STEPS OF THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 220 WEST BROADWAY SAN DIEGO, CA at 10:00 A.M. at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States), all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said deed of trust in the property situated in said county and state hereinafter described. As more fully described on said Deed Of Trust The property address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1606 TAFT STREET LEMON GROVE, CA 92045 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice Of Sale is: $133,237.00. In addition to cash, the trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a State or National Bank, a check drawn by a State or Federal Credit Union or a check drawn by a State or Federal Savings and Loan Association, Savings Association or Savings Bank Specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. In the event tender other than cash is accepted the trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said deed, advances thereunder, with interest as provided therein, and the unpaid principal balance of the note secured by said deed with interest thereon as provided in said note, fees, charges and expenses of the trustee and the trusts created by said deed of trust, dated 03/11/1997 **Lender Service Bureau, as said Trustee A California corporation** 19800 MacArthur Blvd., Suite #970 Irvine, CA 92612 (714) 442-2850 by: Sheryl R. Delk Senior Service Officer P90945 3/18 3/25 4/1/97

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 96-16034 Title Order No. 8901940 Reference No. 313892-2 APN No. 576-223-24-00 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 06/09/93. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On April 8, 1997, at 10:00 AM, **Professional Foreclosure Corporation** as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust, recorded on 06/29/93 as Document No. 1993-0414902 Book - - Page - - of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of SAN DIEGO County, California, executed by: STEVEN J. MAYHEW AND DAWN M. MAYHEW, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, as Trustor, MORTGAGE MAX, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, as Beneficiary. WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT, 220 WEST BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: Lot 66 of Hillsdale, in the City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, State of California, According to Map Thereof No. 1566, Filed in the Office of the County Recorder of San Diego County, May 8, 1913. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2015 Noble Street, Lemon Grove, CA 91945. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: $101,978.98 Estimated. Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. **Professional Foreclosure Corporation**, as Trustee, 2033 N. Main Street, Suite 550, Walnut Creek, CA 94596, Telephone Number: (510) 933-4660, By: Eric Estrella, Foreclosure Specialist, Date: 03/10/97 NPP26669 PUB: 03/18/97, 03/25/97, 04/01/97

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All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance.

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Lemon Grove Almanac

1994 Population:	**25,100**
Incorporated:	**1977**
Area:	**3.75 sq. mi.**
Median income:	**$34,399**
1996-97 city budget:	**$26.3 million**
1996 taxable sales:	**$265 million**
Mayor:	**Mary Teresa Sessom**
Council:	**Thomas Clabby**
	Craig Lake
	Dwight Shelley
	Jeff Jandura
City Manager:	**Doug Yount**
Planning Director:	**Jim Butler**
City Attorney:	**Gloria McLean**
City Clerk:	**Christine Taub**
Sheriff's Capt.:	**Yolanda Collins**
Fire Chief:	**Dale Chamberlain**
Congressional district:	
52nd - Duncan Hunter	
State Senate district:	
40th - Steve Peace	
State Assembly district:	
77th - Steve Baldwin	
Supervisorial district:	
2nd - Dianne Jacob	
High school:	
Libraries:	**1**
Post offices:	**1**
Parks	**4**
Recreation centers	**1**

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Sailors help kids get fit

by Ensign Steve Engle

With obesity, heart disease and other life threatening conditions on the rise, physical fitness and a regular exercise program are as important as ever. Fifth grade students at Monterey Heights School in Lemon Grove, practice exercise skills with Navy volunteers from Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA), in a health-related physical fitness program.

In conjunction with the new FITNESSGRAM curriculum and

Navy volunteers James Miekosz (left) and Ted Woline get the juices flowing at Monterey Heights School.

Physical Fitness Performance Testing mandated for fifth grade students by the State of California, students circuit-train two mornings a week, doing calisthenics, including push ups, crunches, jumping jacks, pull ups, running relays and various stretching exercises.

"I like working with kids, and I think physical fitness should be a part of everyday life from an early age," says Chief Electronics Technician Jeff Joseph. "Being psychically fit is not just good for your health, it also promotes mental acuity and positive self-image. This is a great way for me to give back to the community."

The program's goal is to promote enjoyable regular physical activity. Students have the opportunity to have fun while learning fitness concepts and participate in activities which enhance fitness levels. Under the direction of Nona Spooner, Monterey Heights volunteer coordinator and Electronics Technician First Class Ted Woline, students develop flexibility, cardiorespiratory and muscular strength and endurance. Assisting Woline is Joseph and Molder Second Class James Miekosz.

In a ceremony reenacting the signing of the Constitution, SIMA and Monterey Heights School signed a formal Partnership in Education on Feb. 28.

Sheriff's Log

March 4, 1997

3500 blk. Grove St. Auto theft. $1,000 value.

March 6, 1997

900 blk. Sweetwater Rd. Petty theft. $129 value

March 7, 1997

2700 blk. Lemon Grove Ave. Petty theft. $12 value.

March 8, 1997

2700 blk. Lemon Grove Ave. Strong arm robbery. $200 value.

In the Service

Navy Seaman Recruit **James M. Shepherd**, son of Sharon M. and James M. Shepherd II of Lemon Grove, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

He is a 1994 graduate of West Hills High School.

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Greg McAlpine – a man who keeps his cool in a fire or on ice

by Joe Naiman

Rancho San Diego's Greg McAlpine not only deals with the heat as an engineer for the La Mesa Fire Department but also faces heat as a West Coast Hockey League official.

McAlpine, who has been an hockey official since 1991, is now in his second season as a linesman at the professional ranks.

In addition to his duties at West Coast Hockey League rinks, He has also officiated international roller hockey tournaments and served as a linesman for a handful of Roller Hockey international games last summer.

For McAlpine, officiating was a way to stay involved in the sport after he quit playing. "I've always had a little bit of an interest in it and decided to give it a try," he said. "I liked it."

McAlpine grew up in Seattle and started skating in elementary school. His two favorite sports were baseball and hockey.

In the early 1970s, Seattle was without a Major League Baseball or National Football League team, but the Seattle Totems were a foe of the Western Hockey League's San Diego Gulls.

He said that hockey wasn't real big in Seattle. They've always had a local program, but that it's gotten stronger since he left, now that Seattle is a member of a junior circuit.

When McAlpine was 15, his family moved to Orange County. He ran cross-country and was a utility player on the baseball team while in high school.

Like a number of young boys, he wanted to be a fireman when he grew up. After graduation from high school he looked into the career.

McAlpine, who had been enrolled at the Santa Ana College Fire Academy, took a job at a small fire department in the Los Angeles area in 1981. In 1982, he took the test for the Heartland District and was hired by the La Mesa Fire Department in July of that year.

He has lived in La Mesa or El Cajon since he was hired. He said he has turned down subsequent offers in other areas.

While studying Fire Science at Miramar College and at Cuyamaca College, he joined the college hockey club and later joined a men's league.

He said he loves skating, enjoys the speed of the game. I like being part of it," said the player-turned-official.

McAlpine currently serves out of Station 11 in downtown La Mesa. As an engineer he drives the truck and supports the crew once the engine has arrived to the scene of the emergency, including hooking up the hoses, supplying water and assisting with the "Jaws of Life" rescue device.

Greg and Valerie McAlpine now live in Rancho San Diego with their three children, ages 10, 6 and 3. Although the McAlpines enrolled their children in Rancho San Diego Elementary School last year, they felt that home schooling would provide a better student-to-teacher ratio.

His other career took a turn for the better in 1995 when the West Coast Hockey League began operations. Joe Miazgowicz, the long-time president of the San Diego referees association, was named the WCHL's supervisor of officiating.

McAlpine was one of the three or four Miazgowicz thought could mold and make the transition from amateur hockey to the pros.

McAlpine cited two major differences between the amateur and the pro level – the skill level of the players, which required some adaptation, and the attitudes of the players and of the coaches, since they're doing this for a living, while we're part-time officials.

McAlpine noted that there were also transitions from playing to officiating and realizing you don't know the rules. "It's challenging dealing with people in different ways. Hockey's a very emotional sport."

Although much of the linesmen's duties include judging offsides and icing situations, they are also called upon to break up fights. The referee assesses penalties and nullifies goals, but the entire officiating crew often gets the blame from the stands.

Although serving at the professional level also increases the number of fans in the stands, McAlpine doesn't feel his job to be more difficult for that reason.

On the other hand, the noise of several thousand fans makes it tough to communicate with the rest of the officiating team. McAlpine has officiated at both Gulls home openers.

He also sometimes takes a hockey puck off his body or finds himself in the path of a skating player who is pretty intense when an official gets hit.

After the game, however, the contact is forgiven. "If you screw up, they let you know. Sometimes they let you know if you don't screw up," said McAlpine of post-game communication with players and coaches.

Hockey officials skate between four to six miles during a game. The referee traverses the ice during play, while the linesmen do much of the work after play stops.

The toughest part of officiating for McAlpine is staying alert. "You're always thinking, always got your head on a swivel," he stated. "

Miazgowicz seems to feel he is succeeding. McAlpine feels he is doing a well enough job, now that Joe has the confidence to put him out there on any given night.

This year McAlpine has not only officiated locally but has also traveled to Bakersfield, Reno and Tucson.

The crews for the Taylor Cup playoffs had not yet been selected and will be based on performance during the season. Last year, McAlpine officiated one playoff match.

In May, McAlpine will attend Roller Hockey International's training camp in the Los Angeles area. Because there are fewer RHI games than WCHL games, and because many RHI officials officiate in other leagues during ice hockey season, McAlpine expects fewer assignments.

The increased supply of roller hockey officials didn't prevent McAlpine from being invited to Chicago for an international tournament at the amateur level. Last year, he was invited to Italy to officiate in the amateur tournament.

McAlpine hopes that he can advance to officiating International Hockey League games; the 37-year-old McAlpine realizes that the IHL would probably be the highest level to which he could advance.

Although McAlpine works with diverse temperatures in his two professions, his favorite part of his firefighter job applies to his hockey position, noting that the job is different every day you come to work. You never know what's going to happen or when it's going to happen.

Linesman Greg McAlpine breaks up a fight between the Gulls' Chad Wagner (in black) and a Bakersfield player during a recent league game.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger

Sports Beat
with Greg Eichelberger

. Another week, and another example of how San Diego (in this case, the women of San Diego State's basketball team) gets no respect. I used to think this only happened in my hometown of St. Louis, but I guess I was wrong.

I should learn never underestimate the idiocy of the NCAA tournament committee. Seems that even though the Aztecs finished at 23-6 and 15-1 in the Pacific Division of the Western Athletic Conference, and defeated Utah (24-5, 15-1 in the Mountain Division of the WAC), they still have a lower seed (#11) than the Utes (#5). Plus, the women had to play in Knoxville against Oregon (21-6) and if they had won that one, they would have had to get by defending champion Tennessee on it's own court! Ridiculous. The Aztecs, playing without the team's best defender, Shaney Harris, lost to Oregon, 80-68.

Almost as stupid as the men's selection group, which allows North Carolina to play in Winston-Salem, N.C., and Duke to play in Charlotte. Oh well.

The Lakeside Boys and Girls Club (located behind Lindo Park Elementary School at 12824 Lakeshore Drive) will soon have a new gymnasium and a gaggle of sports for your kids to go ga-ga over. Indoor soccer (seven on a side), wrestling, track and field, boxing, weight-lifting and karate, among others. Plus, don't forget to send the kids to Spring Break Camp, from March 31 – April 11. Call Don Ransom, or the staff, at 443-9293, for all of your child's social recreation needs. To find out about other B&G Club activities in your community, call 440-1600.

The Gulls just a'keep on winning, moving closer and closer to their second straight Founder's Cup (claimed by the winner of the West Coast Hockey League's regular season), and possibly another Taylor Cup title. Gull-tender Sergei Naumov has a league-leading goals against average (GGA) of 3.10, and an .898 save percentage.

His back-up, Daniel Laviolette, has a 3.38 GGA and a save percentage of .886, which ranks second. If it's defense that wins championships, then this team is on the road to another. We just hope more people continue to show up, especially for the playoffs. For information on the team, contact Chris Tilker at 224-4625, ext. 413, and he'll take care of you.

Of the *Union-Tribune's* "25 Prep baseball players to watch" this season, nine of them are from the East County. They are Derek Ayres (Granite Hills, 1B/P), Eric Becker (Valhalla, P/1B), Brett Caradonna (El Capitan, OF), Beau Craig (Grossmont, C/P), Leo Daigle (Monte Vista, 1B), John Franey (Helix, P/1B), Ryan Lehr (Grossmont, 3B/C/P), Mike McHugh (Helix, P/OF) and Ty Sager (Valhalla, 2B).

The paper also rated the pre-season top 10 teams, with Helix, Granite Hills, Monte Vista and El Capitan ranking four, five, six and seven, respectively.

El Cap's Dawn Dasher was chosen as one of the *U.T.'s* Athletes of the Week for her performance in the Vaqueros' recent 4-3 sectional victory over San Pasqual (one goal, one assist), and for scoring both tallies in a 2-1 semifinal win over Patrick Henry.

That's about it for this week, friends. Let me know if you'd like something in this column by calling 390-7103, and I'll put it in, providing it's sports-related and non-fattening. Until then, have a great sports week.

Attend youth games and help with their fund raisers

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Local all-star teams struggle at AYSO Sectionals

by Michael Krawczak

East County's top six AYSO All-Star teams, which dominated the recent Tri-Area Tournament, faced a higher level of competition in the Sectional Tournament at Irvine on March 8 - 9.

Having reached the finals in all six divisions at the Tri-Area Tournament and having prevailed in four, our local teams were shut out of the champion's circle at Irvine.

The Division 3 Boys La Mesa All Stars had a solid tournament, tying Cerritos, 1-1, falling to Chula Vista, 3-2, on a last second goal, then defeating Downey, 5-4. Aaron Garcia scored for La Mesa on a penalty kick. The narrow loss to Chula Vista was La Mesa's first, after breezing undefeated through three prior tournaments.

Santee Kickin'it went down to three straight narrow defeats, 2-1 to South Irvine, 3-2 to Bonita on a last minute goal and 2-1 to West Garden Grove. With 12 first-year Division 3 girls on the team, Kickin'it was outsized by their opposition.

Santee F5 was competitive in each of its three Division 4 Boys games, but also lost each. Forward Kevon Petersen was lost for the duration of the tournament when he pulled a muscle in the opening 3-1 loss to South Irvine.

Defenders Anthony Fortini, Nathan Craig and Bradley Reese kept the score close in the final two games, which F5 lost to Tierrasanta, 1-0, and to South Huntington Beach, 2-1.

Alex Kyzer and Derek Campbell scored F5's goals. Jack Westphall made several great plays at midfield, along with Nicholas Caraveo, the field admiral. Goalkeeper Brendan Dunne was outstanding, with several beautiful saves.

Through three All-Star tournaments, Tri-Area and Area V champion F5 finished with a combined 9-3-1 record, with four shutouts and a 49-15 scoring edge.

The Division 4 Girls El Cajon Fully Loaded tied Santa Ana, before dropping its final two contests to La Mirada and North Irvine. Nevertheless, the girls were thrilled to be there, had fun and an overall great experience.

El Cajon Golden Numbers, representing Division 5 Girls, also had as much fun on and off the field as they could, while coming up on the short end of the score in each of their three games.

While this is the official end of the line for the AYSO season that began in August, many of these outstanding young athletes are already participating on new soccer teams, ranging from Spring Select to tournament teams and indoor soccer, while they await the start of the next AYSO season this summer.

Note: We were unable to contact the Division 5 Boys coach.

CIF gives OK to 35-second shot clock

The state CIF Federated Council recently voted approval for use of a 35-second clock for all boys games, the same as used in men's college games.

The action was taken following a survey of the state school's coaches, athletic directors and principals which showed a 35 to 27 percent preference for a 35-second clock over a 30 second clock.

A 30-second clock is now being utilized by the girls, the same as college women.

YMCA to hold spring camp

The YMCA Camping Services Branch will offer Surf and Turf Spring Break Camp for ages 7 to 13, from Sunday through Friday, March 23 to March 28.

This first-time-ever resident camp program will start at YMCA Camp Marston in Julian and end at YMCA Camp Surf in Coronado. The YMCA will provide transportation between the two camps on Tuesday afternoon.

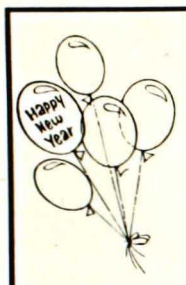
A variety of activities will be offered including hiking, archery, ropes course, surfing, volleyball, kayaking and more. The cost is $195 per camper, with scholarships available.

For more information, call 765-0642.

Send us your sports news and photos* TODAY!

Box 127, Lemon Grove CA 91946

*Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope if photos are to be returned.



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